can be seen among boulders of streams. This frog is generally visible from July to October only.

(3) **Rana tigerina:** Common, locally called *dhedka* by the tribals, lives in ditches along the road side, hill streams and in the stagnant water of the paddy field bordering the sanctuary. It is visible in paddy fields at the time of sowing of paddy. When paddy becomes tall, it remains hidden under vegetative cover.

(4) **Tomopterna breviceps:** Very common, appears on the ground with the pre-monsoon showers, and retires for hibernation in winter. During earlier monsoon showers it can be seen in ditches, pits, etc., generally at night and before noon. After egg-laying, it becomes terrestrial like a toad. It falls in forest nursery-tanks during night and dozens can be seen swimming sluggishly in water. If water level is low in the tank due to vertical walls, they cannot escape (Sharma 1993). In their effort to climb rough walls, they injure the fingers and toes. Sometimes, a few are seen floating dead in water tanks.

During the rains, males of this species become vocal. Their calls can be heard all night till the morning.

From September onwards, one can come across. *T. breviceps* in large numbers while moving in dry nullahs. This frog goes into burrows when winter starts.

Family: Microhylidae

(5) **Microhyla ornata:** Uncommon, and terrestrial, lives in damp, covered hide-out. It leaves the ponds, ditches, etc. during the day and comes out only during the night for feeding and breeding. In cemented tanks, where escape is not possible, it can be seen climbing walls above the water level. This species remains visible during the monsoon period only.

(6) **Uperodon systoma:** Uncommon, becomes visible in monsoon only. Two males and one female were collected from a small cemented tank near Nalwa Wildlife Chowki. A pair was bagged on the periphery of the Sanctuary. The weight of the male was 14 g and that of the female 26 g. They were kept in a tank, where the female laid 1784 eggs in one night. After egg laying, the female was re-weighed and found to be 22 g. Males of this species are vocal and make loud calls in the early hours of the morning. Males call while swimming to and from their burrows. During the day frogs of this species vacate the pond. This species remains visible only during the monsoon rains.

Family: Bufonidae

(7) **Bufo melanostictus:** Common Seven species of amphibians contained in five genera belonging to three families have been recorded from Phulwari Ki Nal Wildlife Sanctuary. So far six species of amphibians are known from the region of Udaipur district, namely *Rana cyanophlyctis, R. limnocharis, R. tigerina, Tomopterna breviceps, Bufo melanostictus* and *B. andersoni* (Mansukhani and Murthy 1964). Two species are being recorded for the first time from Udaipur district, namely *Microhyla ornata* and *Uperodon systoma.*

I thank Mr. A.S. Champawat I.F.S., Dy. C.F., Aravalli Afforestation Project, Udaipur (Central) and Mr. J.S. Nathawat, Deputy Chief Wildlife Warden, Udaipur for providing facilities.

January 31, 1995 SATISH KUMAR SHARMA,
Range Forest Officer,
Aravalli Afforestation Programme,
Jhadol (F.), Dist. Udaipur (Raj.) 313 702.

References

Manshukhani, M.R. & T.S.N. Murthy (1964): Fauna of Rajasthan. Part-6. Amphibia. *Rec. Zool. Survey India, 62 (1&2)*: 51-60.

Sharma, S.K. (1993): Cemented Tanks in forest areas and wildlife management. *Indian Forester, 119 (10)*: 849-852.

25. *LABEO MICROPTHALMUS* (DAY) (PISCES: CYPRINIDAE), A NEW RECORD FROM BIHAR, INDIA

Introduction

During the course of ichthyofaunal survey of the river Gandak at Balmikinagar, Bihar (27° N, 84° 15' E), a specimen of *Labeo* was collected along with other fishes, which, after examination was identified as *Labeo micropthalmus* (Day). The identification of this specimen has been confirmed by the Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta. A perusal of existing Indian literature on the ichthyofauna (Day 1878, 1889; Jayaram 1981, Jhingran 1956, Menon 1950, 1974; Munshi Datta and Srivastava 1988, McClelland 1839, Talwar and Jhingran 1991) reveal that *Labeo micropthalmus* (Day) has not been recorded earlier from Bihar. Hence the present collection and the distributional notes of this carp would

be of interest in highlighting the extended range of its distribution in new areas not recorded earlier. The specimen captured by cast net was fixed in 3%, and later preserved in, 5% formaline solution.

DESCRIPTION

Labeo micropthalmus (Day)

English name — Murrie Labeo

Material examined: 2 specimens, 116-150 mm TL, from Balmikinagar, Gandak river, Collector: S.K. Mishra; 6 April 1993.

Diagnostic features: Diii 10; Aii 5; Pi 17; Vi 8;C 19

Length of head 6, depth of body 5.5, both in total length. Eye diameter 5 in head length, 2 in snout length and 2.25 in the interorbital width. Dorsal profile of body more convex than its ventral profile. Snout overhanging mouth, with an indistinct lateral lobe; lips continuous; no pores on snout; interrupted groove across lower jaw. Mouth inferior; a cartilagenous covering to inside lower jaw.

Barbels one pair, maxillary. Dorsal fin upper margin concave, its origin midway between snout tip and posterior base of anal fin, the height higher the depth of body.

Colour: In life, body silvery, darkest on the back; scales occasionally marked with red.

Zoogeographical distribution: Pakistan; and INDIA: Punjab, Himalayas, Murree and Kangra also Kashmir. This species is a noteworthy addition to the ichthyofauna of Bihar.

DISCUSSION

Labeo microthalmus (Day) attains a length of 25 cm and is of minor interest to fisheries. Menon (1974) considered this species to be a synonym of *Labeo dero* (Heckel) but there are several differences. *Labeo micropthalmus* (Day) can be distinguished from *Labeo dero* (Heckel) by the following key.

1. (a) Snout with an indistinct lateral lobe; pores on snout generally absent; dorsal fin higher than body depth ..... *L. micropthalmus*
- (b) Snout without any lateral lobe, pores on snout generally present; dorsal fin equal to or shorter than body depth ..... *L. dero*

February 3, 1995 SAFAL KUMAR MISHRA
Department of Zoology, T.P.V. College, Narkatiaganj, W. Champaran, Bihar.

REFERENCES

DAY, F. (1878): The Fishes of India.William Dawson, London.

DAY, F. (1889): The Fauna of British India including Ceylon and Burma, Fishes, Vols. I & II. London.

JAYARAM, K.C. (1981): Hand Book: The Freshwater Fishes of India, Zool. Surv. of India, Calcutta.

JHINGRAN, V.G. (1956): The Capture fishery of river Ganges at Buxar (Bihar, India) in the years 1952-54. *Indian Journ. Fish. 3*: 197-215.

MCCLELLAND, J. (1839): Indian Cyprinidae. *Asiat. Res. 19*: 217-465.

MENON, A.G.K. (1950): On a collection of fish from the fort on Parasnath hill, Chotanagpur, Bihar. *Rec. Indian Mus. 4B(1)*: 71-72.

MENON, A.G.K. (1974): A check-list of fishes of the Himalayan and the Indo-Gangetic plains. Inland Fish. Soc. of India, Barrackpore, West-Bengal.

MUNSHI DATTA & SRIVASTAVA (1988): Natural History of Fishes and Systematics of Freshwater Fishes of India. Narendra Publ. House, Delhi.

TALWAR, P.K. & A.G. JHINGRAN (1991): Inland Fishes of India and Adjacent Countries. Oxford & IBH Publ. Co. Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, Vols. I & II.

26. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE GREY MULLET *RHINOMUGIL CORSULA* (HAMILTON) (PISCES: MUGILIDAE) FROM WESTERN MAHARASHTRA

In 1981, Singh and Pradhan reported the occurrence of *Rhinomugil corsula* (Ham.) in parts of the river Bhima. However, they reported that this fish is absent from the rivers Mula and Mutha in Pune. During our extensive survey of the Mula-Mutha rivers carried out mainly between 1990 and 1993, it was found that the fish occurs at the Bund Garden, downstream from the confluence of Mula and Mutha. We observed at least 3-4 regular shoals, of about 8-10 fishes each, swimming in the shallow waters beneath the bund wall. It was easy to identify the fish with binoculars because of its peculiar swimming habits aptly described by Hora (1938).

The fish is very quick and alert and easily escapes cast nets. With considerable effort we could obtain a specimen from this area. The fish was subsequently identified using the key given by Jayaram (1981) and Talwar and Jhingran (1991). During monsoon floods, however, they are often captured in this area. Although present in Mula-Mutha, near their confluence, the fish is certainly not abundant. It is very rarely found in the upper